



**Rick Espino**  
*Chair*

**Virginia Jones**  
*Vice Chair*

# Emergency Medical Care Commission

**SAN BENITO COUNTY**

**DAVID GHILARDUCCI, M.D.**  
*Medical Director*

## San Benito County Emergency Medical Care Commission

**Meeting Minutes**  
September 2, 2015

### **I. Call to Order / Introductions:**

The Meeting was called to order by Rick Espino, at 1:40 p.m.

#### **Voting Members Present:**

Air Ambulance Provider	Cortney McPhee
CAL FIRE – San Benito/Monterey Unit	Brice Muenzer
California Dept. of Parks & Rec. Hollister Hills SVRA	Eric Sturm
City of San Juan Bautista	John Fox
Contracted Ambulance Provider	Brenda Brenner
Hollister/San Benito County Fire Department	Josh Buzzetta
Member at Large	Rick Espino
National Park Service - Pinnacles National Park	Jan Lemons
San Benito Healthcare District-Hazel Hawkins Memorial Hospital	Karen O'Connell, RN

#### **Non – Voting Members Present:**

EMS Manager	Marcie Morrow
EMS Medical Director	Dave Ghilarducci, M.D.

#### **Voting Members Absent:**

American Red Cross-Local Chapter	Vacant
Aromas Tri- County Fire Protection District	Baraka Carter
Bureau of Land Management-Hollister Field Office	Mike Chiodini
California Highway Patrol – Hollister/Gilroy Office	Herb Kellogg
Hollister Police Department	Dave Westrick
Public Safety Communications Center	Dennis Kidd
San Benito County Board of Supervisor	Robert Rivas
San Benito County Sheriff/Coroner	Steve Van Den Heuvel

#### **Non-Voting Members Absent:**

#### **Others Present:**

American Red Cross	Romina Cervantes
CALFIRE	Robert DeLaRosa
CALSTAR	Larissa Bradford
Hazel Hawkins Hospital	Steve Scherr, MD/ Trina DeMare
Office of Emergency Service	Kevin O'Neill/Kris Mangano
San Benito County EMS	Dixie Zamzow

**II. Approval of EMCC Minutes of March 4, 2015**

The minutes of May 6, 2015 were accepted and approved.

**III. Public Comment:**

None

**IV. Public Information/Education:**

Marcie Morrow will be teaching an American Heart Association BLS Refresher on October 14, 2015 from 1-5 PM at the Sheriff Office conference room. Class size is limited; the cost is \$20.00, first come first serve.

**V. EMS Medical Director's Report – Dr. David Ghilarducci:**

Policy Committee

Dr. Ghilarducci stated he is looking for people to be on the policy revision committee. Looking for people who actually use the protocols in the field, those who knows what works and what does not.

STEMI & 12 Leads

Dr. Ghilarducci reported 12 Leads will be starting here soon. The rural areas are a big concern here for STEMI patients. Appropriate transportation will be to either drive or fly the patient out to a STEMI center. If they are very ill, they will need to go to Hazel Hawkins Hospital a call will need to be placed to let HHH know a STEMI patient is coming in. A discussion took place on patients being cared for and transferred and the main care being inside a four and half hour window.

Trauma Policies

Dr. Ghilarducci stated Hazel Hawkins Hospital is still trying to gain Level 4 Trauma status. We are continuing to help them do this as they will be better prepared to handle trauma patients. He stated it will not change any pre-hospital destination in the field now, it will help a patient that is taken to Hazel Hawkins ER and they will be better prepared to take care of them or stabilize a patient that is too sick to be transferred out.

Video Laryngoscopy

Dr. Ghilarducci explained how video laryngoscopy technology has become more affordable, Video Laryngoscopy will be coming to San Benito County soon and he stated how there are some clinical downside to using the King tube. Video Laryngoscopy is a wonderful tool; it's another great way to improve our patient care procedures.

**VI. Old Business:**

Ad Hoc Committee – Ambulance Transport of Psych Patients

It was reported the timeliness of the clinical evaluations of 5150 patients is being monitored. Also mentioned was the county is required to cover the transfers of 5150 patients, both Behavioral Health and the hospital transfer center are aware of this. Meetings have been on going and moving in a slow positive direction. Alan Yamamoto with San Benito County Behavioral Health will have meetings with his On Call Psychologists to come up with an effective and efficient treatment plan for these patients. It was stated the On Call Psychologist are not contracted with the hospital.

Rick Espino explained the history of how transportation issues all started, and how AMR transferred these patients out of courtesy and how it was affecting the 911 system by taking an ambulance out of service. Marcie Morrow was able to get additional resources for the county by permitting six outside transporting ambulance companies that total up to 72 additional ambulance transfer units.

Trauma Center- Hazel Hawkins Memorial Hospital

Dr. Scherr attended site visits at Natividad Medical Center - Level 2 Trauma Center and Valley Medical Center - Level 1 Trauma Center in Santa Clara to exchange information on Hazel Hawkins Memorial Hospital becoming a Level 4 Trauma Center. Very positive and exciting meetings which they both agreed to partner up with Hazel Hawkins Hospital to exchange educational support opportunities and protocols. Dr. Scherr also spoke on changes in regards to stroke care; beginning January of 2015 stroke care has quickly changed, he spoke of five studies that have taken place and all five were extremely positive. They are now looking at how to change protocols on intravascular intervention. Regional Medical Center, Stanford and Good Sam are all stroke intervention centers.

**VII. New Business:**

Data Collection-Health Information Exchange

Marcie Morrow spoke of a meeting she attended with Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties. The state has developed a program to have patient information in one central data collection base. All Health care providers are using this to know what has been done for each patient. It appears EMS component has not been a part of this process. Since all three counties (Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito) share one common trauma center, Natividad Medical Center, meetings have been taking place to try to work on a process to be a part of this central data base. One big issue is how to share digital images. Sharing images now can only be done by using equipment that cost millions of dollars, another less expensive way to view/share digital images needs to be found.

Benchmark Reports

Dr. Ghilarducci spoke on changes to improve performance measures done in the field on key components such as Cardiac Arrest, Trauma, Stemi, Stroke and Intubation.

**VIII. Roundtable**

Karen O'Connor spoke on Hazel Hawkins Hospital computer system issues. Because of this she has been unable to provide CE's, she hopes to get them out soon.

Marcie Morrow spoke on a drill conducted by OES and EMS involving PG&E. She stated it was a great turn out where the MCI Plan was utilized. Very impressive moulage was used on the volunteers. There was room for improvement using the radio channels and confusion in the process using triage tags. Marcie reminded the group to watch for future trainings and EMS policy changes/updates on the EMS website and EMS cell phone APP.

An investigation is going on for a repeat customer (46 times this year) in the 911 system. Looking to improve the limit of transfer service, involving Behavioral Health to help this person to get the care they need and not affect the system.

Kris Mangano spoke on the CERTS (Community Emergency Response Team) training starting on September 29, every Tuesday and Thursday for four (4) weeks and ending on Saturday October 24 with a final graduation exercise.

Josh Buzzetta reported there is a new Fire Chief, Bob Martin Del Campo, he comes from Watsonville and before that he was Captain with Hollister Fire.

Baraka Carter with CALFIRE has been transferred and Robert De la Rosa will be his replacement.

Larissa Bradford was introduced; she is the new Chief Nurse for CALSTAR 2.

Eric Sturm reported Dixie Zamzow reminding him of the 2-year Hollister Hills contract will expire in December 31, 2015; he will be notifying management staff. He also explained when they have motorcycle races at the park; the promoter will be required to pay for an ambulance on scene during the entire event. Eric also spoke on dedicated LZ for air ambulance at the park. He will be sending Marcie the map showing the locations.

Jan Lemons with Pinnacles National Park reported she is currently Chief Ranger at the park.

Romina Cervantes with American Red Cross spoke on 1000 Smoke Alarms will be given out on October 17, 2015 around San Juan Road thru Calaveras School area. She stated they need 200 volunteers. The Faith Base communities will be visited September 12th. To date American Red Cross has handed out 11,048 smoke alarms.

**IX. Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for November 4, 2015

**X. Meeting was adjourned at 2:37 P.M.**